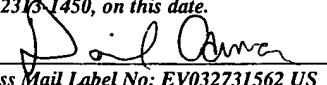


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Patent Application)
 Applicant: Kenji Noma) *I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United
 States Postal Service as EXPRESS MAIL in an envelope addressed to:
 Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, P.O.
 Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.*
 Serial No.) *February 6, 2004* 
 Filed: February 6, 2004) *Date* *Express Mail Label No: EV032731562 US*
 For: MAGNETORESISTANCE)
 EFFECT FILM,)
 MAGNETORESISTANCE)
 EFFECT HEAD AND)
 SOLID STATE MEMORY)
 Art Unit:)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) within either of the following time periods, whichever occurs last:

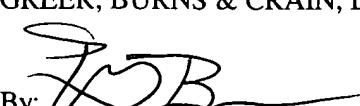
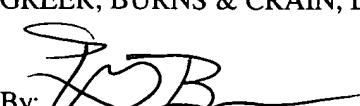
- (a) within three months of either the filing date of the national application or the date of entry into the national stage; or
- (b) before the mailing date of first office action on the merits (i.e., not including actions such as restriction requirements).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

February 6, 2004
 300 South Wacker Drive – Suite 2500
 Chicago, Illinois 60606
 Telephone: (312) 360-0080
 Facsimile: (312) 360-9315
Customer Number 24978

Respectfully submitted,
 GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

 By: 
 Patrick G. Burns, Registration 29,367

Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 8-88) Patent and Trademark Office		Attorney Docket No.: 2309.69582	Serial No.:
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant: Kenji Noma	
		Filing Date: February 6, 2004	Group:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	07-169026	July 4, 1995	Japan			Abs.	
	11-185219	July 9, 1999	Japan			Abs.	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner	Date Considered
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*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.